

March 18, 1974

SENATOR WARNER: NO, this excludes the constitutional amendment from the limitation Senator Syas. My amendment does.

SENATOR SYAS: It excludes constitutional amendments. How about referendum or petition drives?

SENATOR WARNER: The same, any proposition on the ballot.

SENATOR SYAS: They can do what ever they want with any proposition on the ballot?

SENATOR WARNER: In terms of the amount that was spend, they would have to be reported, but the same as it is now.

SENATOR SYAS: But not the candidates?

SENATOR WARNER: Not the..

SENATOR SYAS: You are improving the bill somewhat but the the bill is still no good, but I'll let this one go.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer, are you passing?

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, I would like to point out to the members of the legislature that were getting into the we are heading into a hole in the area of campaign financing reform that I think that somebody ought to point out. I have stood before this legislature last year and have gone down to defeat on bills in an attempt to regulate this, and I did the same thing this year, just last week, I was frankly surprised at the strength of an amendment to have a check off on the state income tax to put funds into a political campaigns. Now I would suggest that if anyone wants to take the time to observe as we go down the road here trying to get some way to try and effectively regulate the whole method of campaign financing we are going to head into the point where we do nothing. We do absolutely nothing and that is going to happen until we figure out a way to let small contributions come in and to let the state pay for the cost of elections. We are heading here exactly in the same direction that we were going in the area of antitrust because one by one everybody is going to see that the way things have been done are going to be blocked. That is going to affect the political fortunes of every member of the legislature and a political opportunities of every organization that supports every member of this legislature. We are headed into an area of nothingness. We are just going down the road right now.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President, I pass.

PRESIDENT: Alright, any further discussion of the Warner amendment to LB877 on Select File, Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President, members, I think that this is important to have this thousand dollar limitation on propositions as it is in any other field. I can see where some associations put in probably a million dollars and get a proposition that would not be good for the state. I think that they too should be limited to a thousand dollars.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the Warner amendment? Senator Syas.